

Burnaby Lakeview Preschool COVID-19 SAFETY PLAN

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Child care is a critical part of the public health emergency response team

Introduction

The virus is thought to spread mainly from person-to-person.

- Between people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet).
- Through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes or talks.
- These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs.
- Some recent studies have suggested that COVID-19 may be spread by people who are not showing symptoms.
- Children are not known to be significant transmitters of COVID-19 and are not considered to be high risk.

Knowing these facts, Burnaby Lakeview Preschool (BLPA) has implemented many new safety measures for families, children and teachers to follow so that we are an important part of reducing the spread and keeping everyone as healthy as possible.

Social Distancing Strategies

BLPA staff and families will work with the local health officials to determine a set of strategies appropriate for BLPA. We will use preparedness strategies and consider the following social distancing strategies that may/may not be implemented at some point of time during Covid-19

- Preschool classes will include the same group each day, and the same child care providers will remain with the same group each day.
- Special events such as Field trips, Holiday events, and special performances will be postponed.
- Consider whether to alter or halt daily group activities that may promote transmission.
 - Keep each group of children in a separate room.
 - Staggering playground times and keeping groups separate for special activities such as art, music, and exercising.
- Staggering arrival and drop off times and/or have child care providers come outside the facility to pick up the children as they arrive.

Keep surfaces disinfected

Every personnel item will need to be clearly labeled to avoid accidental sharing.

Guideline for onset of illness at Burnaby Lakeview Preschool

Child

- If a child becomes sick during the day: One teacher will remove child to the back room and keep child comfortable until the family can arrive.

- The second teacher will immediately call the child's family and request an immediate pick up.

Guidelines for onset of illness while at home

If a child becomes sick at home with any symptoms, cough, fever, muscle aches, generally not feeling well, we ask that you notify us and keep your child at home. If symptoms are consistent with Covid-19, Call 811 for guidance as to how to proceed before calling their family doctor.

Parents will need to assess their children DAILY for symptoms before sending them to preschool. Parents will need to confirm to teachers at drop off that their child does not have symptoms of common cold, influenza, COVID-19, or other respiratory disease as well as completing the questionnaire through the app.

It will be mandatory for Preschool Teachers and children to stay at home if they have symptoms of illness.

If a child or Teacher is assessed by their family physician or nurse practitioner and is determined that they do NOT have COVID-19, they may return to the preschool once symptoms resolve with a doctor's confirmation.

Children/Staff with COVID-19 who have home isolated can stop isolation with these conditions

- A negative COVID-19 test

If BLPA has a case of Covid-19

- BLPA will report the confirmed case to FRASER HEALTH DEPARTMENT and follow their specific guidelines.
- BLPA will report the confirmed case to the Burnaby School District.
- FRASER HEALTH will notify families and staff of the exposure
- FRASER HEALTH will determine the date of symptom onset for the child/staff member and if the child/staff member attended/worked at the program while symptomatic or during the 2 days before symptoms began
- FRASER HEALTH WILL determine who had close contact with the child/staff member at the program during those days.
- Close off areas used by the individuals with COVID-19
- Exclude the children and staff members who are determined to have had close contact with the affected/child/staff member for 14 days after the last day they had contact with the affected/child/staff member

Health Check Of Children/Staff

All children and staff are required to be screened for any observable illness, including cough or respiratory distress, and to confirm temperature below 100 F (37.8) degrees

Child

- Parents should check child's temperature daily before leaving home, if you forget or unable to then a touchless thermometer will be used at the preschool by one of the teachers.

- Thermometer will be disinfected before and after use
- Masks are not mandatory and are optional. Teachers may wear face shield if desired.

During the day- prevention of Covid-19

Arrival of children

- Stagger arrival and drop off times and/or have child care providers come outside the facility to pick up the children as they arrive.
- Drop off and pick up should limit direct contact between parents and staff members and adhere to social distancing recommendation.
- If possible, older people such as grandparents or those with serious underlying medical conditions should not pick up children, because they are more at risk for [severe illness from COVID-19](#)
- Each family will sign in through the “Hi Mama” app.
- Complete health check for each child. Families also need to complete a daily summary of child’s exposure to Covid-19, and if child has any of the identified symptoms set by the BC CDC guidance, the child should not be permitted to attend.
- Staff will help child remove coat / bag and get hands washed
- Staff will take child’s snack and place above their coats.
- Assure that the family has completed the sign in/check in

Departure of children

- Currently there is staggered pick up.
- Teachers will bring children outside to adults and sign out will be done by teachers and family members picking up.

Midday cleaning

- Clean the area or item with soap and water or another detergent if it is dirty. Then, use disinfectant.
- Use BC CDC recommended products only
Follow the instructions on the label to ensure safe and effective use of the product.
- Precautions such as wearing gloves and making sure you have good ventilation during use of the product.

Clean and Sanitize Toys

Frequent cleaning and sanitizing of high touch point areas, toys, and surfaces.

1. Following the current health authority guidelines for sanitization and care, our classroom is disinfected twice per day, using **soap and water then a disinfectant spray**.
2. Child bags brought into the classroom will be sprayed with the disinfectant solution prior to being brought into the classroom. Please plan your child’s bag, accordingly; we are not responsible for wear/tear/colour degradation due to disinfectant use.

- This will also require more time between the classes therefore class duration will slightly change
- New class time will be as follows.
- Morning class, staggered drop off 8:45 & 9:00 - Staggered pick up 11:15 & 11:30
- Afternoon class Staggered drop off 1:00 & 1:15 Staggered Pick up 3:00 & 3:15

Group Size

Group size during the Covid-19 Pandemic will be limited to 12-18 children that will be placed into smaller groups of 9 or less.

Hand washing

All children, staff, and volunteers should engage in hand hygiene at the following times

- Arrival to the facility and after breaks
- Before and after eating or handling food
- Before and after administering medication or medical ointment
- After using the toilet or helping a child use the bathroom
- After coming in contact with bodily fluid
- After handling animals
- After playing outdoors
- After handling garbage
- After blowing one's nose, coughing, or sneezing
- Before coming in contact with any child
- After touching or cleaning surfaces that may be contaminated
- After using shared equipment like toys, computer keyboards, mouse, scissors, pens. etc
- All children must adhere to regular hand washing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds
 - Turn water on and wet hands, remove from water
 - Add soap to hands and create friction to make bubbles
 - Scrub for 20 seconds, sing Happy Birthday or ABC's
 - Staff member should use a scrub brush under nails
 - Rinse hands under running water
 - Dry hands with single use paper towels
 - Turn off faucet with paper towels

Alcohol based sanitizers

Use of an alcohol based hand sanitizer will only be practiced when soap and water method is not available. If a child needs to use alcohol based sanitizer, an adult/staff member must be physically present to observe and guide child in proper use.

Meetings staff, board of directors, continuing education

These events and meetings that require close contact have been postponed during Covid-19, instead some parent meetings and home visits will be done via Zoom.

- The Director or her designee will communicate often with companies including fire and safety that enter the building about the importance of sick employees staying home.
 - BLPA procedure for these persons to enter the building
 - Visitors conducting business must wear a mask
 - Director or her designee will take visitors temperature
 - The visitor will complete a questionnaire form

Center Family/Staff Communication Plan

- Communication is important for all center staff and families. Regular communication will continue through email and a new app called “Hi Mama” by the director as well as face to face from teachers.

Burnaby Lakeview Preschool

Anyone who is using the center must read, sign, agree and follow the policy and procedures in order to be participating in BLPA programs.

I have read and fully understand Burnaby Lakeview Preschool policy and procedures for Covid-19. I also understand that this document can be changed at any time with or without notice by the director her designee or the Board of Directors.

I understand that the safety, health and the well-being of children, families, and staff rely on my due diligence to keep myself and family following Physical Distancing rules set by the Province at any given time.

Family Signature

Date